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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/802,320	03/16/2004	Alex Fung	CHEUNG/118/US	3743

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HARTFORD, CT 06103

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, CHAU N

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2831

DATE MAILED: 04/20/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

EK

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/802,320	Applicant(s) FUNG ET AL.	
	Examiner Chau N. Nguyen	Art Unit 2831	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,5,7-9,12-15,18 and 20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3,4,6,10,11,16,17 and 19 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 06 December 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claims 1-3, 5, 6, 8-10, 12, 14-16, 18 and 19 are objected to because of the following informalities:

in claim 1, line 2, delete "the",

in claim 2, line 1, before "two" insert --said--,

in claim 3, line 2, before "three" insert --said--,

in claim 5, line 2, change pin" to --pins--,

in claim 6, line 3, before "three" insert --said--,

in claim 8, line 5, change "the power" to --power--,

in claim 9, line 1, before "two" insert --said--,

in claim 10, line 2, before "three" insert --said--,

in claim 12, line 1, "said recess" lacks antecedent basis,

in claim 12, line 2, "the ridge of the plug body" lacks antecedent basis,

in claim 14, line 4, delete "the",

in claim 15, line 1, before "two" insert --said--,

in claim 16, line 2, before "three" insert --said--,

in claim 18, change "a said" to --each said--,

in claim 19, line 3, before "three" insert --said--. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

4. Claims 1, 2 and 7-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wijnberg et al. (6,297,455) in view of Savoca et al. (6,142,824).

Wijnberg et al. discloses a power and signal transmitting multiple-core cable in which power transmitting core (20) has more conductors and thicker insulation than two signal transmitting cores (30). Wijnberg et al. does not disclose the cable having an attachment plug which has plastic plug-pins with spring-steel strips. Savoca et al. discloses a plug (Figures 3) comprising plastic plug-pins (55) with spring-steel strips (57). It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to attach the plug taught by Savoca et al. to the cable of Wijnberg et al. to provide an electrical connection between the cable and an electronic device. Noted that the

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modified cable assembly of Wijnberg et al. can be used for an electrosurgical pencil since it comprises structure and material as claimed (re claims 1 and 8).

The modified cable assembly of Wijnberg et al. also discloses the two signal transmitting cores having a reduced diameter in comparison to the power transmitting core (re claims 2 and 9) and the number of conductors in each signal transmitting core being 4 (re claims 7 and 13).

5. Claims 1, 5, 8, 12, 14, 15, 18 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wijnberg et al. in view of Shimojyo (5,993,256).

Wijnberg et al. discloses a power and signal transmitting multiple-core cable in which power transmitting core (20) has more conductors and thicker insulation than two signal transmitting cores (30), the two signal transmitting cores have a reduced diameter in comparison to the power transmitting core (re claim 15), and the number of conductors in each signal core being 4 (re claim 20). Wijnberg et al. does not disclose the cable having an attachment plug which has metal plug-pins with recess on a plug body near the plug-pins, wherein the recess is a notch cut on a ridge of the plug body near the plug-pins (re claims 1, 5, 8, 12, 14, 18). Shimojyo discloses a plug comprising metal plug-pins with recess (not numbered, see Figure 6) which is a notch cut on a ridge of the plug body near the plug-pins. It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to attach the plug as taught by Shimojyo to the cable of Wijnberg et al. to provide an electrical connection between the cable and an electronic device. Noted that the cable assembly of Wijnberg et al. can be used for an electrosurgical pencil since it comprises structure and material as claimed.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 3, 4, 6, 10, 11, 16, 17 and 19 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

7. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: the prior art of record does not teach or suggest a cable assembly comprising all the features as recited in the claims and in combination with the attachment plug comprising a plastic outer mold and an inner mold to prevent the three cores from contact with each other (re claims 3 and 10, 16), the plastic outer mold having a two-piece construction without the inner mold and employing constructional spacers and barriers to prevent the three cores from contacting each other (re claims 6 and 19).

Cited Art

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Ishii discloses a cable with power and signal transmitting core. Archang and Tanhehco et al. disclose plugs having plug-pins.

Communication

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chau N. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-1980. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dean Reichard can be reached on 571-272-2800 ext 31. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chau N Nguyen', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Chau N Nguyen
Primary Examiner
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